potential markets other than US, such as EU, Japan, Latin America etc.

— Financial support to industry for organizing and participating in international fairs, exhibitions and conferences for marketing Indian strength in the sector, especially in EU, Japan, Latin America etc.

— Bilateral cooperation strengthened with countries of Europe, Latin America, Japan, Australia and Asian region by entering into Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs). These MoUs have been used to provide platform for the industry to establish contacts with counterparts in these countries and to explore and increase possibilities of exports.

— Providing world class infrastructure including data communications at strategic locations in the country. Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), which provides "Single Window Services" and Data Communications services to the software exporters, has set up 28 new STPs during 1999 to 2002 and thereby bringing the total No. of STPs to 37.

These STPs offer low cost alternatives for the industry to set up operations for export of software and services.

Shifting of telephones

2217. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received during the last six months by MTNL Delhi from the telephone subscribers in Meghalaya for the shifting of telephones to Delhi;

(b) the number of applications disposed of and the telephone connections given so far;

(c) whether any of these applications are still pending; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Only two cases have been received for All India shift to Delhi from Meghalaya during last six months.

(b) The cases mentioned in part (a) have been disposed of and telephone connections have been opened.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Garuda and Dolphin mobile phones

2218. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Garuda and Dolphin mobile phones are not supplied to the consumers in time by the officers of MTNL inspite of heavy demand from the people;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to delay in supply many of the consumers are going to other private cellular companies; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken to expedite the supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Garuda telephones were given to the consumers immediately after commissioning of the equipment with the result that available capacity in both Delhi and Mumbai has been fully utilized.

Dolphin mobile connections are being provided in Delhi and Mumbai on demand. As per MTNL policy the consumers are required to purchase mobile handset on their own.

(b) There are various reasons due to which a subscriber opts for a cellular mobile operator and it is applicable to all operators including MTNL.

(c) Garuda service is being expanded both in Delhi and Mumbai to provide the connections without delay. Similarly, Dolphin system, is being expanded both in Delhi and Mumbai to meet future demands.